

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1815

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001

CHINESE ACTIVITIES ALONG L.A.C.

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY; GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ; GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA; IQBAL AHMED SARADGI; JAYASHREE BANERJEE; NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA; SHIVAJI MANE; Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press report that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times', dated January 15, 2001 under the caption, 'Chinese activities along LAC creating problems';

(b) if so, the main difficulties that are being created by the Chinese along LAC;

(c) whether this question was taken up with the Chinese military authorities; and

(d) if so, the extent to which China has agreed to reduce activities on LAC?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1815 8.3.2001

Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 15.1.2001 under the caption 'Chinese activities along LAC creating problems'.

2. The resolution of boundary question between India and China is outstanding. The two sides also have differences in the perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas. Pending clarification of the LAC, the two sides have been carrying out normal border management activities including construction of tracks and patrolling upto their respective perception of the LAC. The perceived violations of the LAC are taken up by both sides through diplomatic channels and also at the ground level through Border Personnel Meetings/Flag Meetings. In response to our protests, the Chinese usually respond that their activities are restricted to their side of the LAC.

3. The statement of the Chief of Army Staff quoted in the press report referred to above needs to be viewed in the above context. COAS had referred to certain degree of stabilisation on the LAC, even while speaking of the differences in the perception of the two countries about the actual alignment of the LAC.

4. India and China have been discussing the boundary question within the framework of India-China Joint Working Group and the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials. Both sides have reiterated the objective of seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through dialogue. The situation along the India-China LAC has been generally peaceful and is under control.